

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

TOWN BRANCH STREAM CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS AT MOSBY DRIVE – CATOCTIN CIRCLE TO MORVEN PARK ROAD (Revised 9/13/22)

What is the purpose of the stream channel improvements?

This project is intended to restore approximately 1,500 linear feet of the Town Branch stream between Catoclin Circle and Morven Park Road. This work will include improvements to the existing stream channel to reduce significant erosion to the banks which is affecting adjoining properties. By reducing erosion, the project will reduce the amount of sediment being deposited downstream. Sediment transport is an area of concern for the Town's Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) required reductions. The project will offer the following benefits:

- The stream bed and banks will be stabilized to reduce sediment transport downstream.
- Plants installed along the stream bank will help keep the stream cool, helping to increase the plant/aquatic life in the stream.
- The stream design will increase the biological health of stream by providing pools and riffles in the stream for plant/aquatic life.

How can I keep up to date on this project?

You can receive regular updates by signing up for updates via the Project webpage <https://leesburgva.gov/townbranch>

When will the work begin?

The design work began in August 2022. The design team is currently developing a detailed schedule that will include tentative dates for construction starting and finishing.

How is the project funded?

This project has been awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from the Virginia Stormwater Local Assistance Fund. Additional funding, including any required grant match, will be Town funded.

Will the public have an opportunity to provide input into the channel improvements?

Yes. In addition to previously provided information meetings held during the initial study phase of this project, the Town will hold public information meeting(s) during the design process so that you can review and provide input on the proposed improvements.

If my property is surveyed, does that mean that it will be involved in the stream channel improvements project?

Not necessarily. The survey work is being conducted as part of the design process. The Town will not be able to identify the affected properties until the project design phase is complete.

Will trees be removed as part of this project?

Yes. Trees within the project area (especially close to the existing stream bank) likely will require removal to complete the stream restoration work. Trees that are not adjacent to the stream banks will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if they can be preserved. The Town's consultant will be performing a tree survey of the project area to properly inventory all existing trees. Every attempt will be made to replace trees along the stream corridor that are impacted. Tree types and

locations will be determined during the design process and will include input from the property owners as appropriate.

If my property is affected by the stream channel improvements project, what is the next step?

The Town will obtain a permanent easement will be obtained along the Town Branch corridor for future maintenance of the stream improvements. Once the project is designed, if impacts to your property are expected, Leesburg's Office of Capital Projects will oversee the acquisition of any necessary easements with you directly.

Who will maintain the improvements?

The Town of Leesburg will be responsible for maintaining the restored stream area. The property owners will be responsible for routine mowing and maintaining trees planted on property outside the permanent easement area. Any trees planted as part of the project will have a 2-year warranty provided by the contractor.

If I do not return the signed Permission to Enter Property form, will the Town's contractors still be able to enter my property to conduct the necessary survey work?

Yes. Virginia Code section 25.1-203 authorizes entry onto your property without your written permission, provided that certain additional notice requirements are met. The additional Notice of Intent to Enter will be delivered by certified mail AND one of the following additional means: 1) posting at the property, 2) delivery by guaranteed overnight courier, or 3) hand delivery to you.

How will I know when my property is surveyed?

The contractors have been asked to knock on your door before they begin the surveying.

Why does the letter identify several activities happening at different times?

Several types of activities may be listed on your letter with different time frames for when they will occur. Different activities often require the use of consultants with specific expertise. To limit the number of letters you receive, the consultant has anticipated the types of activities needed and may have listed several activities on the notification.

Why is there a range of dates when the activities will occur?

There are many challenges a consultant faces when scheduling these types of activities. Weather, illness, equipment malfunction, etc. can all affect the schedule. A range has been provided to ensure the activity can happen within that window to reduce the number of notices you receive. If the consultant does not complete the necessary activities within the dates provided in the notification letter, a new Request for Permission to Inspect must be sent identifying the new time range for the activities.

Will the design phase of the project require any additional entry onto my property?

Maybe. Although the consultant has attempted to anticipate all the surveying and testing activities needed on your property, after beginning the design work, they may determine that additional activities are necessary at a later date. If so, you will receive a new Request for Permission to Inspect prior to those activities being performed.